

25-6/20

10 November 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence

SUBJECT : Interpretation of Section 9 of the Central
Intelligence Agency Act of 1949

1. Section 9 of the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949 authorizes the Director to set up three positions in the Agency to effectuate those scientific intelligence functions relating to national security and to provide for compensation at rates not less than \$13,100 nor more than \$15,000 per annum, subject to the approval of the Civil Service Commission.

2. As you know, this Section has been greatly lessened in importance by subsequent pay raises, but is still on our books. The best indication of the meaning of the Section is set forth in the detailed justifications which were prepared for and approved by Admiral Hillenkoetter when he presented our request for legislation, which was eventually passed as the Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949. This justification, which is brief, ends with the statement, "These three positions are to be used solely for scientists. It is impossible to secure top scientists of the caliber necessary at current Classification Act ceiling." This interpretation was supported by an opinion of the Comptroller General, which, in effect, concluded that the word "professional" in the statute was to be read with the word "scientific" so that the intent of the provision was to have it apply only to persons of outstanding scientific attainment.

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LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

OGC:LRH:jeb

cc: OGC chrono

OGC subject "CIA Legislation-Section 9" File #606A